AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, as follows.

Claims 1-12 (cancelled)

Claim 13 (currently amended)

13. A transdermal therapeutic system for administering a calcium antagonist of the dihydropyridine ~~type~~ which comprises:

a) a backing layer, which defines the upper surface of the device,

b) a drug reservoir containing a solution comprising:

- a calcium antagonist of the dihydropyridine ~~type~~ which is selected from the group consisting of amlodipine, felodipine, isradipine, lacidipine, nicardipine, nifedipine, nilvadipine, nimodipine, nisoldipine, and nitrendipine,
- an alcohol selected from the group consisting of ethanol, propanol, isopropanol, and n-decyl alcohol or (+)-limonene,
- a pyrrolidone derivative, and
- a saturated or unsaturated fatty acid ester of a carboxylic acid containing 8 – 16 carbon atoms and polyhydroxy alcohol,

c) a membrane to control the release of the active ingredient, and

d) a pressure sensitive adhesive layer, which is a polyacrylate, polyurethane or silicone adhesive, for attaching the system to the skin and, if necessary, a release liner on the outer face of the adhesive layer

wherein the said backing layer and said membrane are connected together to form the drug reservoir,

wherein the transdermal therapeutic system achieves a rate of administration of the calcium antagonist of the dihydropyridine to a patient in need thereof of 0.1 to 2 µg/hr through a skin area of 2.0 to 90 cm^2.

Claim 14 (currently amended)

14. A transdermal therapeutic system as claimed in claim 13 wherein the solution in the drug reservoir comprises a calcium antagonist of ~~the~~ dihydropyridine ~~type~~, ethanol, N-methyl-2-pyrrolidinone and sorbitan palmitate.

Claim 15 (currently amended)

15. A transdermal therapeutic system as claimed in claim 14 wherein the solution comprises a calcium antagonist of the dihydropyridine ~~type~~ 3 – 5%, ethanol 30 – 40%, sorbitan palmitate 3 – 5% and N-methyl-2-pyrrolidinone 50 – 60% by weight of the total solution.

Claim 16 (previously presented)

16. A transdermal therapeutic system as claimed in claim 13 which is the form of skin patch.

Claim 17 (currently amended)

17. A transdermal therapeutic system as claimed in claim 15 which is in the form of a skin patch ~~claim 13 in which the calcium antagonist of the dihydropyridine type is selected from the group consisting of amlodipine, felodipine, isradipine, lacidipine, nicardipine, nifedipine, nilvadipine, nimodipine, nisoldipine, and nitrendipine~~.

Claim 18 (currently amended)

18. A transdermal therapeutic system as claimed in claim 17 in which the calcium antagonist of the dihydropyridine type is lacidipine wherein the pressure sensitive adhesive is a silicone adhesive and the transdermal therapeutic system has a release liner.

Claim 19 (currently amended)

19. A transdermal therapeutic system as claimed in claim 17 in which the calcium antagonist of the dihydropyridine type is nifedipine wherein the pressure sensitive adhesive is a silicone adhesive and the transdermal therapeutic system has a release liner.

Claim 20 (currently amended)

20. A method for administering a calcium antagonist of ~~the~~ dihydropyridine ~~type~~ through a pre-determined area of intact skin and at an administration rate which will reach and maintain an effective therapeutic dose of a calcium antagonist of ~~the~~ dihydropyridine ~~type~~ for the control of hypertension and cardiovascular diseases selected from the group consisting of atherosclerosis, peripheral vascular disease, ischaemic heart disease and congestive heart failure which comprises applying to the skin a transdermal therapeutic system as claimed in claim 13.

Claim 21 (currently amended)

21. A solution which is suitable for use in a drug reservoir for a transdermal therapeutic system as claimed in claim 13 which comprises:

- a calcium antagonist of ~~the~~ dihydropyridine ~~type~~,
- an alcohol selected from the group consisting of ethanol, propanol, isopropanol and n-decyl alcohol,
- a pyrrolidone derivative, and
- a saturated or unsaturated fatty acid ester of a carboxylic acid containing 8 – 16 carbon atoms and a polyhydroxy alcohol.

Claim 22 (currently amended)

22. A solution as claimed in claim 21 which comprises a calcium antagonist of ~~the~~ dihydropyridine ~~type~~, ethanol, N-methyl-2-pyrrolidinone and sorbitan palmitate.

Claim 23 (currently amended)

23. A method of treating hypertension which comprises administering an effective amount of calcium antagonist of ~~the~~ dihydropyridine ~~type~~ in a transdermal therapeutic system as claimed in claim 13.

Claim 24 (new)

24. The transdermal therapeutic system as claimed in claim 13, wherein the solution in the drug reservoir comprises nifedipine, ethanol and (+)-limonene.

Claim 25 (new)

25. The transdermal therapeutic system as claimed in claim 13, wherein the transdermal therapeutic system achieves a rate of administration of the calcium antagonist of the dihydropyridine to a patient in need thereof of 0.1 to 2 μg/hr through a skin area of 2.0 to 90 cm^2.